decide on the application of India for the allotment of 'Pioneer area' in the Indian Ocean only after the Rules of Procedure for the registration of pioneer investors and allotment of Pioneer area in terms of Resolution II of 30 April, 1982 (governing the protection of investments in pioneer activities relating to polymetallic nodules) have been finalised. The Commission has accorded priority to this work.

(b) In terms of the aforementioned Resolution a Pioneer investor is entitled for the allotment of only one mine site not exceedig 150,000 sq. kilometres. Therefore, the quesiton of allotment of the second mine site to India will not arise.

Antarctica Club

464. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA

SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of non-aligned countries who are members of the Antarctica Club; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Third World countries have protested against the Bonn negotiations on oil and minerals in the Antarctica?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V PATIL): (a) Two member countries of the non-aligned movement namely, Argentina and India, are cosultative members of the Antarctic Treaty. Another non-aligned country Peru has very recently acceded to the Treaty and is a non-consultative member.

(b) Government is not aware of any global forum of developing countries, including the non-aligned movement, which has protested against the special consultative meeting on Antarctica Mineral Resources, held in Bonn in July, 1983. Some individual countries had, however, expressed certain reservations on this item during the debate at the United Nations General Assembly last year. Their concern was regarding the Antarctic Treaty Parties proceeding with the discussions aimed at concluding a regime on Antarctic Mineral Resources.

465. [*Transferred to the 27th July, 1984*].

Power from Controlled Fusion

466. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched a project called "Aditya" to develop power from controlled fusion under the Plasma Physics Programme at Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so ,what are its salient features, progress and estimated expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V PATIL): (a) and (b) 'Aditya' is an experimental device which is being fabricated to study the stability, confinement and transport of high temperature plasma and carry out basic experiments in these fields. The generation of power through controlled fusion is not among the objectives of this project, which is supported by the Government. The conceptual and engineering designs of the project have been completed. Its various sub-systems are in the process of being fabricated. The cost of the project, including the cost of the laboratories, equipment facilities and expenditure on scientific and other staff is estimated to be around Rupees nine crores. The project is expected to be operational in 1986.